

CLASSIFICATION

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

REPORT

TOPIC 1. Border Guard Battalion in Cheb

2. 32d Infantry Regiment in Kosice

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 22 March 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE) 1 - Standard Manpower Questionnaire

REMARKS

Border guard battalion in Cheb.

1. Prior to 14 February 1951, the border guard battalion at Cheb (N 51/P 37) was subordinate to a border guard brigade in Cheb, commanded by Major Okrouhlik. (fnu), which, in turn, was subordinate to Unit [ ] in Prague. The brigade controlled five PS battalions. Another unit in Cheb, a so-called reserve company of about 100 soldiers, was armed with model 48-B sub-machine guns. (1)
2. The PS battalion in Cheb was commanded by Lieutenant Potuznik, (fnu), and organized into five companies, including one company in Libstejn (N 51/P 27) and one company in Dubina (N 51/P 27). Another company, which was said to belong to a PS battalion in As (N 51/P 18), was stationed in Pola (Mirschfeld--N 51/P 28), and controlled the border sector north of that assigned to the company in Libstejn. [ ]
3. Each company averaged about 45 soldiers, including five veteran SNB men. About 75 percent of the personnel were Czechs and the rest were Slovaks. Each company was equipped with model 48-A and 48-B submachine guns, about five model 26 light machine guns, one sedan, and one motorcycle.
4. The border sector guarded by the company in Libstejn was about 3 km in width and subdivided into four segments. Each section has been guarded by a stationary double sentry since February 1951. This replaced the previous practice of patrol guards. The rear of the border zone was guarded by patrols.

32d Inf Regt in Kosice.

5. Prior to 21 October 1950, the I Bn of the 32d Inf Regt was located in Trebisov (R 49/E 62). The 32d Inf Regt which was surnamed Gardaky, [ ] was stationed in Kosice (R 49/E 34). Colonel Havelka, (fnu), was the regimental commander and Staff Captain Lukac, (fnu), chief of staff. The regimental headquarters unit consisted of a headquarters company, a submachine gun company and an artillery com-

An evaluation of this report  
is requested from Army

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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pany in Kosice, and a reconnaissance company, which was at another post. The III Bn of the regiment was also stationed in Kosice. A regimental guard detachment of about 40 soldiers, commanded by Staff Captain Liska, (fnu), was quartered in the Urbanovo Barracks, Kosice.

6. The I Bn in Trebisov was commanded by Staff Captain Janba, (fnu), and organized into the 1st through 3d Inf Co and the 4th Liv LG Co. Each infantry company numbered 120 to 130 soldiers and was equipped with Czech model 24 rifles, model 26 light machine guns, and three horse-drawn vehicles with 10 horses. The 4th Co had a strength of about 50 soldiers and was equipped with model 24 rifles and six model 37 heavy machine guns.

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7. An unidentified artillery unit and a motor transport battalion were also stationed in Kosice. A clerk of the KVV office stated that more than 10,000 recruits were inducted in Kosice and about 1,000 recruits in Trebisov. No Soviet military personnel have ever been observed there. Some soldiers returned from the reserve officers' school in Milina (Q 50/O 92) in November 1950.

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#### Comments.

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The information confirms the PS brigade in Chob.

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The present report confirms Major Okrouhlik, (fnu), as the commanding officer of the PS brigade.

Two PS battalions are known to be stationed in Chob, namely one battalion commanded by Lieutenant Trojacek, (fnu), in the former finance administration building, and the battalion mentioned in this report. Previous information that Lieutenant Kotera, (fnu), was the commanding officer of the second battalion has not been confirmed. No PS battalion has as yet been carried in AS.

The report confirms surname [ ] and disposition of the 32d Inf Regt which belongs to the infantry division in Kosice that was confirmed as the 10th Inf Div in April 1950. However, other sources stated that the infantry division concerned was the 4th Inf Div. Each regiment of the division in Kosice was reportedly reduced in size to one infantry battalion and one replacement battalion in October 1949.

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Therefore, the Hq 32d Inf Regt and its infantry battalion have been carried in Kosice and its replacement battalion in Trebisov. However, the present report mentioning a I Bn and a II Bn indicates that the regiment may have been restored to its standard organization into three infantry battalions and one replacement battalion, possibly after the arrival of recruits in October 1950. This hypothesis requires substantiation.

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The recruit figures were probably exaggerated since there is no adequate barracks space in the two towns.

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